

§ 426.24

(b) through (h) to evaluate an application.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under Control No. 1830-0013)

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 2420a)

§ 426.24 What selection criteria does the Secretary use for Agriculture Action Centers?

The Secretary uses the following criteria to evaluate an application for an Agriculture Action Center:

(a) *Program factors.* (10 points) The Secretary reviews each application for an Agriculture Action Center to determine the extent to which the proposed center will—

(1) Provide vocational education to meet current and projected occupational needs; and

(2) Be located in a service area that includes a high concentration of individuals who are—

(i) Adversely affected by farm and rural economic downturns;

(ii) Dislocated from farming; and

(iii) Dislocated from agriculturally-related businesses and industries that are adversely affected by farm and rural economic downturns.

(b) *Other criteria.* The Secretary also uses the criteria and points in § 426.21 (b) through (h) to evaluate an application.

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(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 2420a)

§ 426.25 What additional factors may the Secretary consider?

After evaluating applications according to criteria in § 426.21, § 426.22, § 426.23, or § 426.24, the Secretary may fund other than the most highly rated applications if doing so would improve the geographical distribution of projects funded under this part.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 2420a)

Subpart D—What Conditions Must Be Met After an Award?

§ 426.30 What is the requirement regarding cost-sharing?

(a) A recipient of an award under this part shall provide not less than 25 percent of the total cost (the sum of the

34 CFR Ch. IV (7-1-05 Edition)

Federal and non-Federal shares) of the project it conducts under this program.

(b) In accordance with subpart G of 34 CFR part 74, the non-Federal share may be in the form of cash or in-kind contributions, including the fair market value of facilities, overhead, personnel, and equipment.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 2420a(b)(2))

§ 426.31 What is the requirement regarding dissemination?

Recipients must disseminate the results of projects assisted under this part in a manner designed to improve the training of teachers, other instructional personnel, counselors, and administrators who are needed to carry out the purposes of the Act.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 2420a(d))

§ 426.32 What are the evaluation requirements?

(a) Each grantee shall provide and budget for an independent evaluation of grant activities.

(b) The evaluation must be both formative and summative in nature.

(c) The evaluation must be based on student achievement, completion, and placement rates and project and product spread and transportability.

(d) A proposed project evaluation design must be submitted to the Secretary for review and approval prior to the end of the first year of the project period.

(e) A summary of evaluation activities and results that can be reviewed by the Department's Program Effectiveness Panel, as defined in 34 CFR 400.4(b), must be submitted to the Secretary during the last year of the project period.

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(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 2420a)

§ 426.33 May the Secretary restrict the use of funds for equipment?

The Secretary may restrict the amount of Federal funds made available for equipment purchases to a certain percentage of the total grant for a project. The Secretary may announce